

Council Chambers  
Monongahela, PA  
November 8, 2017

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Monongahela, due notice of which meeting was published according to law, held Wednesday November 8, 2017 at 7.P.M. in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kepics who led in the Pledge to the flag.

The roll was called and the following present:

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Public Forum:

Melvin O'Brien, 168 West Main Street, complained about bicycles and skateboards on the sidewalks and streets. Chief Tempest said there is a curfew and it is enforced and also the city has many bicycles and skateboards that have been confiscated. The city also has an ordinance stating no bicycles, skateboards or scooters are allowed on the sidewalks of Main Street between 1st and 5th Streets.

Peggy Brown, Meade Street, stated that the Monongahela Main Street Program was awarded a \$1,000.00 grant from the Washington County Community Foundation to develop a state certified polinator garden at the city's Welcome to Monongahela sign at East Main Street & Route 88.

Terry Necciai, 400 Meade Street, distributed the monthly calendars and thanked all who helped with the hanging of 37 jack-o-lanterns. Lowes and Home Depot have donated dwarf spruce trees which will be planted in the planters along Main Street. The Library will be closed from Thanksgiving until possibly December 10 in order to replace new lighting. He also asked that Susan Gruber be appointed to the facade program.

George Eckert, President of MARC, announced that MARC will be sponsoring a Holiday Decorating Contest at no cost to enter. It is for both residential and commercial properties.

Jim Braum, 503 Park Avenue, commended the city saying it looks cleaner and better and to keep it up.

Mike Petrosky, 1032 Fifth Avenue, asked is anything about making 5th Avenue one way and the probability of adding speed bumps. Chief Tempest said that speed humps are permitted but not speed bumps. Speed humps are three inches lower and have many restrictions. The city would also lose its liquid fuels money for maintenance and snow removal on that street.

Chad DeSantis, Lawton Street, on behalf of Mr. Necciai, asked who said the VFW was going to disband the Veterans Banner Program. Mayor Kepics said he would not go into it now. He also asked where the complain has gone regarding the lawsuit against the city that was discussed at the work session. Solicitor Pappasergi said there was no comment as it is pending litigation. Mr. DeSantis asked if the city could re-consider implementing a citizens review board.

Dave Frye, Lawrence Street, asked what is going to happen to Lawrence Street since it has been ground up and if fiber mat would be used again. He was told it would probably be paved when the weather permits.

Report of City Clerk:

Police Report

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Police Report be approved, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and nay vote to the call of the roll by the clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Code Enforcement Report

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilman Kulak, the Code Enforcement Report be approved, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

1st reading of Bill 3-2017 - the 2018 Budget

Report of Mayor Kepics:

Asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of October 11, 2017. There being none, the minutes were approved.

Reported on the upcoming Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2017 and Light-up Night on November 17, 2017. When asked if the restrooms at the Aquatorium would be opened, it was stated the answer was no as they have been winterized and locked.

Report of Accounts & Finance:

Councilman Caudill reported that he anticipates there will be no increase in taxes for 2018 as during his three terms of office there have been no tax increases also. Councilman Kulak commended Mr. Caudill for his role in keeping the rein on the city's finances.

Report of Public Safety:

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Veliky, seconded by Councilman Caudill, the current garbage contract be renewed with the present hauler, Big's, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.



Councilman Veliky reported that the demolition grant from the CDBG Program has been received and as soon as the bids are awarded, demolition of four houses will begin.

Report of Streets & Improvements:

Reported that the walkability design project will be presented at the Monongahela Fire Hall on December 6 at 7 P.M.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Kulak, seconded by Councilman Veliky, to accept the facade grant applications for property at 254 West Main Street and 256-260 West Main Street, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Due to the death of former librarian an appointee has to be made to the facade grant program.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Kulak, seconded by Councilman Miller, that Susan Gruber be appointed as a member of the facade grant program, and the same was agreed to by the following yea and nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Kulak, seconded by Councilman Miller, permission be granted to hire James Mowery in an entry level position for the street department beginning January 1, 2018, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Report of Parks & Property:

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman miller, seconded by Councilman Veliky, to date the lease agreement with the city and Aquatorium Innovations from January 1, 2018 and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Councilman Miller asked MARC President George Eckert whose responsibility it is to clean and maintain the gazebo on Main Street by the Senior Citizens Hi-Rise. There is an agreement between the Washington County Housing Authority and MARC to maintain the gazebo. No smoking signs will be purchased to try and eliminate the smoking there. Chief Tempest said that the smokers are warned the first time and then cited but it is hard to cite the senior citizens from the hi-rise.

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, all properly and approved bills be paid, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

It was moved by Mayor Kepics and Councilman Miller, council adjourn, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics  
Tom Caudill  
Al Veliky  
Ken Kulak  
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5  
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Mayor Kepics then declared council adjourned.



Bob Kepics

ATTEST:

City Clerk

